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SCHOOL

AND

FINANCIAL REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OF BENNINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

MARCH 1, 1883.

ANTRIM, N. H.:
PRINTED BY S. N. BALL.
1883.

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Second term. MISS LOLIE WASON, Teacher. Length of term, 7 weeks. Number of scholars, 8. Average attendance, 6. Wages of teacher, $17·00.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

JAMES QUIMBY, Prudential Committee. MISS FANNIE I. LAKIN, Teacher. Number of scholars, 14. Average attendance, 10. Length of term, 8 weeks. Wages of teacher, $17.00.

Second term by the same teacher. Length of term, 6 weeks. Number of scholars, 10. Average attendance, 9. Wages of teacher, $17.00. On my first visit to this school I found 14 scholars, or should if they had been there; think 12 were present, all belonging to Greenfield. Asking the teacher to point me out my fraction of that school, she informed me it wasn't there, I learned that (13-14) thirteen-fourteenths of the scholars belong to Greenfield. Bennington has furnished $36 06 for one scholar: Greenfield $24.00, or about that, for 13 scholars. Well, what are you going to do about it?

BELOW WE GIVE THE ROLL OF HONOR.

District No. 1. Primary Department. First Term.

Edna Flanders,
Hattie Kimball,
Julia Munhall,
Alice Munhall,
Jessie Pond,
Mabel Richardson,
Nellie Smith,
Emma Smith,
Nellie Shea,
Florance Twitchell.
Bertha Twitchell,
Adams Burtt,
John Eaton,
Fred Eaton,
George Foote,
Fred Knight,
George Knight,
Scott Knight,
Fred Richardson,
George Smith,
Charlie Smith,
Frank Vinall.
Forest Wilson,

Second Term.

Edna Flanders,	Alice George,	Fred Knight,
Florence Twitchell,	Mabel Richardson,	Fred Richardson,
Bertha Twitchell,	John Eaton,	Willie Taylor,
Nellie Cilley,	George Knight,	Frank Finley,
Gertrude Cilley,	Allie Hood,	Richard Finley,
Crissie Finley,	Addie Burtt,	Scott Knight.

Grammar Department.

First Term.		Second Term.
Lizzie Eaton,	Hillie Burtt,	George Gray,
Nannie Marsh,	George Gray,	Hillie Burtt,
Sadie Evans,	George Vinall.	Lillie Martin,
Mamie Rogers,		Lottie Balch.

District No. 2.

First Term. Ida F. Hudson.

Second Term. Anna F. Colby, Ida F. Hudson.

District No. 3.

First Term. Nellie Cashion, Henry Flynn, Nick Flynn.

AMOUNT OF SCHOOL MONEY IN EACH DISTRICT.

District No. 1,	$498 69	District No. 3,	$36 06
" " 2,	57 90		

REMARKS.

Our Prudential Committees have been very fortunate in the selection of teachers, they were all well qualified for the duties to which they were called. There must be different degrees of excellence in teachers, practice tends to make perfect. In district No. 1 we have had teachers of much experience. Mrs. Vinall is one of decided ability, a reader of human nature that makes very few mistakes, a faculty that teachers must possess to be successful. She kept a model school in every particular.

Mr. Stiles is a teacher of acknowledged ability, a man with his head full of practical knowledge which he is able and willing to give his pupils, it would read like a puff if we should write the praise due him for his faithfulness; his term of school will long be remembered by parents and scholars.

Miss Pettengill possesses the requisites for a successful teacher, and kept a profitable term of school; some scholars might think that nature had endowed her with too much dignity, but we have our doubts about that.

Miss Wason is a young faithful and practical teacher, her scholars made much progress during the first term, her second term closed without an examination, the school-house being destroyed by fire the day before the close of the school; the building was worth about as much for ashes, as it was for a school house.

Miss Lakin showed much skill in the art of teaching, think she is one that would put heavens first law in force in her school or there would be trouble, her school made much improvement.

We find in all of our schools a lamentable lack of practical knowledge, especially, in Grammar and Arithmetic. During my first visit to the Grammar School, I called for the first class pursuing that study. My first question was the following: what do you study this book for? one of the best scholars answered by saying, "that is what I would like to know?" they had been through the book, could repeat it word for word, but knew nearly nothing of the ideas they were meant to convey. A parrot could study grammar in that way. When scholars, yea boys, nearly ready to do business for themselves, are not capable of measuring a load of wood or a stock of boards; when girls, who will soon be called to furnish houses for themselves cannot tell how many yards of carpeting it will take to cover a floor, it is time for parents to take more interest in our schools. Practical knowledge is the thing to be aimed at in the education of our children, teachers must lay aside their text books, and spend more time in teaching,

and less time in hearing recitations. The blackboard is the place to teach grammar and arithmetic, the text book is a good tool but the tongue of the teacher is a better one if they know how to use it. Looking back over a period of thirty years I ask this question; do the improvements which are claimed to have been made in text books and modes of teaching, have a salutary effect upon our scholars? are they better qualified to solve the problems of life than those were who received their education years ago? if they are be thanktul, if they are not, something is wrong, for "this is an age of progress." If we should work with as much interest to give our children education, as we do to give them dollars, it would be far better for them, far better for our country. The scholars in our common schools are our nations public property, there we can see the twigs that are to grow up and make the ministers, lawyers, doctors, senators, presidents, farmers, mechanics, merchants &c., of our country. Let us point these twigs in the right direction and sow broadcast among them that one great fertilizer of the mind, education.

Respectfully submitted,

W. D. WOODS,

Superintendent of Schools.

Bennington, March 1st, 1883.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1st, 1883.

The Selectmen to the town,

Dr

To uncollected taxes on H. J. Burtt's list of 1880.	$ 106 05	
William Eaton's list of 1881,	320 20	
John F. Dodge's list of 1882,	2.829 32–	$3,255 57

Cr.

By paying G. A. Whittemore, town treasurer, from Wm. Eaton's list of 1881,	$ 256 13	
Henry Burtt's list of 1880,	17 45	
Error in Henry Burtt's list of 1880,	10 80	
Abatement on " " " "	9 64	
Uncollected taxes on Henry Burtt's list of 1880,	68 16	
Abatement on Eaton's list of 1881,	64 07	
" " Dodge's list of 1882,	20 40	
Uncollected taxes on Dodge's list of 1882,	41 01	
From J. F. Dodge list of 1882,	2,690 48	
Cash in J. F. Dodge, collector's hands	77 43–	$3,255 57

G. A. Whittemore, Treasurer to the town,

Dr.

To money received of Wm. Eaton, treasurer for the year 1881,	$1,361 68
Wm. Eaton, collector for 1881,	256 13

Geo. Wilson by Wesley Wilson, for lot in cemetery,	$ 5 00	
J. F. Dodge, collector for 1882,	2,690 48	
From the state, Railroad tax,	18 05	
Savings Bank tax,	549 48	
Literary fund,	41 86	
F. M. Twitchell for Town Hall,	26 25	
Henry J. Burtt, collector for 1880,	17 45–	$4,966 38

Cr.

By paying County tax,	$381 43	
State tax,	500 00	
Non-resident highway receipts,	95 48–	$976 91

SCHOOL ORDERS.

District No. 1, F. M. Twitchell,	$498 69	
" " 2, George E. Colby,	57 90	
" " 3, James Quimby,	36 06–	$592 65

SUPPORT OF PAUPERS.

By paying G. B. Paige for the support of Mrs. Matilda Paige.	$104 00	
J. Muzzey for keeping transient paupers,	3 00	
J. D. Cooper for boarding Luther Smith in the year 1881,	12 00	
J. D. Cooper expense, sending for Dr. for Smith,	1 50–	$120 50

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

By paying Wm. G. Roach for lumber,	$ 8 50
" " " " " " "	2 59
George M. Brown work on roads,	2 50
B. D. Brown,	2 62
Moses H. Newton,	6 00
Patrich Munhall,	1 02
G. W. Burns for plank,	9 45
Wm. Taylor " "	3 12
John Goodhue work on road,	18
Wm. H. Darrah,	8 67
J. C. Dodge,	4 30

C. F. Balch,	1 40	
J. H. Fleming,	2 45–	$52 80

BREAKING ROADS.

David Roach,	$ 5 99	
James Quimby,	2 95	
Levi Colby.	1 80	
Warren Gillis,	1 00	
Moses H. Newton,	6 40	
Wm. Taylor,	75	
Horace Rogers,	12 90	
B. D. Felch,	3 00	
J. D. Cooper,	3 75	
John Goodhue,	30	
C. F. Balch,	1 20–	$40 04

FOR KEEPING WATERING TROUGHS.

Levi Colby,	$3 00	
Moses Newton,	3 00	
Wm. Taylor,	3 00	
B. D. Felch,	3 00–	$12 00

MONEY PAID TOWN OFFICERS.

M. M. George, 2nd Selectman,	$32 25	
" " Services as Town Clerk,	15 00	
E. J. Dodge, " Supervisor,	5 50	
F. B. Gould, " "	5 50	
B, D. Felch, " "	8 00	
G. A. Whittemore, Town Treasurer,	25 00	
Wm. H. Darrah, 1st Selectman,	50 07	
J. C, Dodge, 3rd Selectman,	40 13	
N. E. Dickey, Constable,	2 25	
J. F. Dodge, Collector,	58 76	
W. D. Woods, S. S. Committee,	18·00–	$260 46

NOTES AND INTEREST PAID.

Wm. Eaton, note and interest,	213 27
Wesley Wilson, " "	149 30
J. Flagg, Interest,	285 00

D. P. Flagg, "	240 00	
Mrs. Betsey Burtt, "	53 00	
Isaac Proctor, note & interest,	102 96	
Alfred Rogers Interest,	139 20	
Clara R. Whittemore, "	120 00	
Interest on John Dodge note to Cong'l Society,	12 00	
J. W. Flagg, Interest,	114 65	
D. P. Flagg,	43 91	
Mrs. Wesley Wilson, "	11 04	
" C. S. A Hodskins, "	7 84	
" C. R. Whittemore, "	23 44	
Wm. Eaton,	41 78	
Alfred Rogers,	30 47	
Mrs. Betsey Burtt, "	27 08–	$1614,94

FOR SERVICES AT THE FIRE AT THE NORTH PART OF THE TOWN.

A. C. Bullard,	7 50	
C. D. Woodbridge,	6 00	
Levi Colby,	15 75	
D. C. Dodge,	1 50	
J. L. Ross.	8 50	
G. A. Ross,	3 50	
G. W. Burns, Cash paid to help,	23 00	
Alfred Gray,	8 50–	$74 25

MISCELLANEOUS TOWN EXPENSES.

S. N. Ball, town reports,	$ 15 00
Charles Kimball, library,	15 20
John Muzzey for pump,	5 00
Fred Knight bounty on crow,	30
Expenses on money sent County Treasurer,	40
E. C. Eastman,	5 11
C. H. Champney for painting bridge,	9 83
J. E. King for lumber,	11 25
James Boyd & Sons for hose	50 00
N. E. Linen Hose Mfg. Co.,	159 50
Express and postage,	1 86
J. L. King, lumber,	41 42
Dr. Christie for returning births and deaths,	2 75
Warren Gillis cutting bushes.	1 50

C. E. Eaton for nails,	$ 7 63	
F. B. Gould cash paid out for the town,	4 39	
" " for care of engine,	25 00	
Amos Eaton for gravel,	1 17	
Frank M. Twitchell for Engine Co.,	67 75	
R. V. Knight labor on reservoir,	3 50	
Frank Taylor for coffin rests,	5 00	
F. M. Twitchell expenses for Town Hall,	20 38	
F. M. Twitchell, Janitor of Town Hall,	10 00	
Express paid,	75	
Rent of Engine House,	18 00	
W. H. Darrah, money paid out for the Town,	38 82	
A. M. Dodge, cleaning room,	50	
A. M. Dodge, services as librarian,	25 50–	$547 51
Received for Town Bonds Sold,	$10,000 00	
" Interest on bonds,	40 00–	$10,040 00

Cr.

By cash to the Selectmen to pay the following sums.

Alfred Lovell, Trustee Suit,	$ 311 80	
John Hazen, " "	220 70	
J. Parker Snow, "	403 90	
J. H. Buttrick, " "	7149 07	
T. C. Wood, "	382 10	
B. F. George, "	382 10	
A. F. Stevens, for services to the town,	761 00	
F. G. Clark, for Harris Trustee Suit,	344 08	
Drafting and printing bonds,	75,00	
To Balance in Treasurer's hands,	10 25–	$10,040 00

RECAPITULATION.

Money and receipts put into the treasurer's hands from March 1st, 1882 to March 1st, 1883,	$4,966 38	
To Balance due from the sale of bonds,	10 25	
Brought down,		–$4,976 63

Credit by paying the following sums:

State Tax,	$500 00
County Tax,	381 43

Non-resident Highway Receipts,	95 48	
School Orders,	592 65	
Support of Paupers,	120 50	
Roads and Bridges in addition to highway tax,	52 80	
Breaktng Roads,	40 04	
Keeping watering troughs,	12 00	
Town Officers,	260 46	
Notes and interest paid,	1614 94	
Watching and putting out fire at the north part of the town,	74 25	
Miscellaneous town expences,	547 51–	$4292 06
Balance in treasury,		684 57

Taxes abated on Burtt's list of 1880.

T. C. Farrington,	1 45	
David Maltaise,	2 45	
Eli Maltaise,	1 45	
G. W. Ross,	2 84	
L. D. Richardson,	1 45–	$9 64

Taxes abated on Eatons' list 1881.

James R. Ashton,	2 50	
Edward Stephens,	1 50	
E. E. Smith,	4 73	
J. E. Favor, by vote of the town,	39 50	
Alfred Gray,	11 25	
A. R. Hood,	4 59–	$64 07

Taxes abated on Dodge's list 1882.

George White,	1 17	
J. L. Fleming,	1 17	
G. L. Herrick,	1 17	
Fred F. Long,	1 17	
James Pond,	3 21	
E. E. Smith,	5 50	
James Shea,	1 17	
John Shea,	1 17	
Mrs. Sarah West,	2 33	
Thomas Welsh,	1 17	
John Oconner,	1 17–	$20 40

TOWN LIABILITIES.

Congregational society given by John Dodge,			$200 00	
Alfred Rogers,	March 1, 1883,		575 00	
Dorcas P. Flagg,			1,400 00	
John W. Flagg,	"	"	1,600 00	
C. S. A. Hodgskins	"	"	130 78	
Rachel Wilson,	"	"	185 00	
William Eaton,	"	"	1,000 00	
Betsey Burtt,	"	"	300 00	
Clara R. Whittemore.	"	"	700 00–	$6,090 78

Against the indebtedness we have the following assets:

Uncollected taxes on Burtt's list of 1880,	$ 68 16	
" " " Dodge's list of 1882,	41 01	
S. A. Walker's note,	51 15	
Due from the county for the support of Mrs. Paige,	104 00	
Money in the treasurer's hands,	684 57–	$ 948 89
Due from J. F. Dodge, collector,	77 43	
		$1,026 32

Demands against the town:

March 1st, 1883, in bonds,	$10,000 00	
In notes,	6,090 78–	$16,090 78
Deduct amount of available means,	1,026 32	
Net indebtedness, March 1st, 1883,		$15,064 46

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM H. DARRAH, } Selectmen of
JOHN C DODGE, } Bennington.

G. A. WHITTEMORE, Treasurer.

Bennington, March 3, 1883.

We have examined the above report of the selectmen and treasurer and find it accurately cast and properly vouched.

JOHN H. FLEMING, }
FRANCIS M. HILLS. } Auditors.

TOWN LIBRARY

Your committee have the pleasure to report the Library in good condition. The Librarian, Mrs. A. M. Dodge, has performed her part excellently, and her methodical system and persistent efforts justly rank her as the right one in the right place. The record book shows that the public appreciate the library as the patronage is on the increase rather than the wane. The contributions of books by friends of this institution, together with purchases made with the funds raised at the "Library benefit Entertainment" have swelled the number of volumes to 513. We hereby acknowledge the receipt of books presented by Miss Hellen A. Dodge of New York, 30 volumes; Mrs. John D. Butler of this town, 13 volumes and 21 St. Nicholas magazines; Timothy C. Whittemore of Lawrence, Samuel Baldwin Esq. and Mrs. E. F. Flanders of our village are due a vote of thanks for their gifts; and for all this generosity your committee in behalf of the town most respectfully bow their gratitude.

C. H. KIMBALL,
A. B. LAWRENCE, } Library Com.
JOHN F. DODGE.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Dr.

Cash on hand as reported Mar. 1st 1882,	9 55	
" received of Harry Knight, as Library benefit committee,	25 50	
" " of A. W. Gray, for book ordered with others,	8 50	
" " Town to pay for rebinding books,	15 20	
" " Librarian, proceeds of Fines &c.,	6 00–	$64 75

Cr.

Cash paid Crawford for rebinding books,	15 20
" " Express on books,	1 00
" " for check & postage in paym't of bill,	16
" " Lockwood & Co., for books,	37 17
" " Express on books,	50
" " for postage and check,	16
" " Express on books given to Library,	40

" " for printing labels,	1 25	
" " Postage,	15	
Cash in Treasurers hands,	8 76–	$64 75

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN F. DODGE, Treasurer.

The committe report that the librarian has paid for oil, matches etc., 55 cents, and now has cash on hand 14 cents, received from sale of catalogues and fines.

C. H. KIMBALL,
A. B, LAWRENCE, } Library Com.
JOHN F. DODGE,

REPORT OF THE SEXTON OF THE TOWN OF BENNINGTON TO MARCH 1st, 1883.

NAME.	AGE.	DIED.	DISEASE.	PLACE OF INTERMENT.
	y. m.			
		1882,		
Walter M. Holt,	4	Mar. 21	Canker.	Bennington.
James Pond,	60	May. 2	Heart Dis.	"
Mary Bishop,	58	May 4	Consumpt'n	Peterboro'.
John E. King,	67 9	Aug. 29	Cancer.	Bennington.
Kendall Gray,	83 8	Sept. 19	Kidney Dis.	"
Charles B. Caldwell,	51	Feb. 6 '83	Consumpt'n	Shelb'rn' Falls
Geo. B. Woodbridge		Jan. 11 "		AndoverMass

JOHN MUZZEY, Sexton.

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